



**City of Gustavus**  
P.O. Box 1  
Gustavus, AK 99826  
Phone: (907) 697-2451

**COUNCIL PACKET**  
**AUGUST 13, 2009 GENERAL MEETING**



**Date Received:**

**APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT/REAPPOINTMENT TO BOARDS & COMMITTEES  
CITY OF GUSTAVUS**

Board/Committee Name: Sanctuary Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Parker Layne T  
Last First MI

Residence Address: 2 Sanctuary Rd

Mailing Address: Box 14

Home Phone: 697-2168

E-Mail Address: LAYNE@USLANDCO.COM

Can you regularly attend meetings? ☒ YES ☐ NO  
(Committee and Board by-laws may have attendance requirements)

Are you currently affiliated with the City in any way? (For example emergency responder, employee)  
☐ YES ☒ NO

If yes, please list positions: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you been a member of this board/committee before? Yes

Reason for interest in committee/board membership: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief background of experience that would qualify you for the position: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Signature

Layne Parker  
Printed Name

May 29, 2009  
Date

**City of Gustavus, Alaska  
Ordinance No. FY10-03NCO**

**AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF GUSTAVUS PROVIDING FOR THE  
AMENDMENT OF THE CITY OF GUSTAVUS ADMINISTRATIVE  
BUDGET FOR FY10 FOR THE PURPOSE OF A DONATION TO THE  
GUSTAVUS COMMUNITY CLINIC**

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GUSTAVUS CITY COUNCIL AS FOLLOWS:**

- Section 1.** Classification. This is a NON-Code Ordinance.  
**Section 2.** For the Fiscal Year of 2010, estimated expenditures have changed from estimates in the approved budget.  
**Section 3.** For the current fiscal year the budget is amended to reflect the changed estimates as follows:

City of Gustavus Administrative Budget

Budget Category	Original Budget	Amended Budget	Change
INCOME			
City Reserve	\$0.00	\$54,000.00	+\$54,000.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$354,160.00	\$408,160.00	+\$54,000.00
EXPENSE			
Donations Expense	\$50.00	\$54,050.00	+\$54,000.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$170,780.00	\$224,780.00	+\$54,000.00

- Section 4.** The budget is hereby amended as indicated and any portion of the approved budget inconsistent with this amendment is repealed.  
**Section 5.** Effective Date. This ordinance becomes effective upon its adoption by the Gustavus City Council.

**DATE OF PUBLICATION: August 13, 2009**  
**DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING: September 10, 2009**

PASSED and APPROVED by the Gustavus City Council this 10th day of September, 2009.

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**William Unkel, Mayor**

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**Paul Berry, Vice Mayor**

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**Wayne Howell, Council Member**

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**Sandi Marchbanks, Council Member**

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**John Nixon, Council Member**

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**Joe Lassiter, Council Member**

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**Lou Cacioppo, Council Member**

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**Attest: Kapryce Manchester  
City Clerk**

**CITY OF GUSTAVUS, ALASKA  
ORDINANCE FY10-01NCO**

**AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF GUSTAVUS PROVIDING FOR THE  
AMENDMENT OF THE GUSTAVUS COMMUNITY NETWORK (GCN)  
BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR FY10**

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GUSTAVUS CITY COUNCIL AS FOLLOWS:**

- Section 1.** Classification. This is a Non-Code Ordinance.
- Section 2.** For the Fiscal Year of 2010, estimated expenditures have changed from the estimates in the approved budget.
- Section 3.** For the current fiscal year the budget is amended to reflect the changes estimates as follows:

**GCN Budget Account:**

<b>Budget Category</b>	<b>Original Budget</b>	<b>Amended Budget</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>Income</b>			
Encumbered Comm. Funds	\$ 500.00	\$10,000.00	+\$9,500.00
Total Income	\$37,460.00	\$46,960.00	+\$9,500.00
<b>Expense</b>			
Capital Expense	\$ 0.00	\$ 5,800.00	+\$5,800.00
Contractual Services	\$ 9,600.00	\$13,300.00	+\$3,700.00
Total Expense	\$37,460.00	\$46,960.00	+\$9,500.00

- Section 4.** The budget is hereby amended as indicated and any portion of the approved budget inconsistent with this amendment is repealed.
- Section 5.** Effective Date. This ordinance becomes effective upon its adoption by the Gustavus City Council.

**DATE OF PUBLICATION: July 16, 2009**

**DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING: August 13, 2009**

PASSED and APPROVED by the Gustavus City Council this  
13th day of August, 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_  
William Unkel, Mayor

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Paul Berry, Vice Mayor

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Wayne Howell, Council Member

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Lou Cacioppo, Council Member

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John Nixon, Council Member

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Sandi Marchbanks, Council Member

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Joe Lassiter, Council Member

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Attest:  
Kapryce Manchester, City Clerk

**Budget Amendment Ordinance  
Ordinance No. FY10-02NCO**

**AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF GUSTAVUS PROVIDING FOR THE  
AMENDMENT OF THE GUSTAVUS COMMUNITY NETWORK (GCN)  
BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR FY10**

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GUSTAVUS CITY COUNCIL AS FOLLOWS:**

- Section 1.** Classification. This is a Non-Code Ordinance.
- Section 2.** For the Fiscal Year of 2010, estimated expenditures have changed from the estimates in the approved budget.
- Section 3.** For the current fiscal year the budget is amended to reflect the changes estimates as follows:

**GCN Budget Account:**

<b>Budget Category</b>	<b>Original Budget</b>	<b>Amended Budget</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>Income</b>			
City Reserve	\$ 0.00	\$20,000.00	+\$20,000.00
Total Income	\$46,960.00	\$66,960.00	+\$20,000.00
<b>Expense</b>			
Capital Expense	\$ 5,800.00	\$25,800.00	+\$20,000.00
Total Expense	\$46,960.00	\$66,960.00	+\$20,000.00

- Section 4.** The budget is hereby amended as indicated and any portion of the approved budget inconsistent with this amendment is repealed.
- Section 5.** Effective Date. This ordinance becomes effective upon its adoption by the Gustavus City Council.

**DATE OF PUBLICATION: August 7th, 2009**  
**DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING: August 13, 2009**

PASSED and APPROVED by the Gustavus City Council this  
13th day of August, 2009.

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**William Unkel, Mayor**

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**Paul Berry, Vice Mayor**

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**Wayne Howell, Council Member**

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**Lou Cacioppo, Council Member**

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**John Nixon, Council Member**

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**Sandi Marchbanks, Council Member**

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**Joe Lassiter, Council Member**

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**Attest: Kapryce Manchester**  
**City Clerk**

## **CITY OF GUSTAVUS, ALASKA**

### **Resolution 2009-20**

**A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF GUSTAVUS URGING STATE OF ALASKA REPRESENTATIVES TO SUPPORT H.R. 2256, THE "PRESERVING THE AMERICAN HISTORICAL RECORD" ACT AND REQUESTING THAT ONCE THE ACT IS ADOPTED, THE FUNDS BE REDISTRIBUTED TO LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES TO MEET THE MANDATES OF ALASKA STATUTE 29.20.380**

**WHEREAS**, H.R. 2256, the "Preserving the American Historical Record" (PAHR) Act, proposes to provide formula-based funding to all fifty states for statewide projects and redistribution of funds to local governments, historical societies, library historical collections, universities, and other organizations; and

**WHEREAS**, this bill seeks to ensure essential care of and improved access to documents and historical records in many forms, from paper to electronic media; and

**WHEREAS**, under the PAHR Act, states and local municipalities would establish strategic funding priorities reflecting local needs for projects in the following areas:

- Creating access tools, including archival finding aids, documentary editions, indexes, and images of key records online;
- Preservation actions, such as digitization projects, electronic records archives, and collections assessment;
- Disaster preparedness and recovery initiatives for essential records;
- Programs to provide education and training to archivists and others who care for historical records, in particular to ensure they are prepared both to manage the electronic records being created and to provide online access for public use; and

**WHEREAS**, once adopted the PAHR Act will provide the State of Alaska with \$870,929 to distribute to local municipalities; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Alaska, recognizing the importance of municipal records, adopted Alaska Statute 29.20.380, which mandates that each Alaska municipal clerk comply with the Public Records Act and states that each clerk must "manage municipal records and develop retention schedules and procedures for inventory, storage, and destruction of records as necessary; maintain an indexed file of all permanent municipal records, provide for codification of ordinances, and authenticate or certify records as necessary"; and

**WHEREAS**, while carrying out the prescribed duties, the direct financial burden of this edict fall solely on the municipality.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Gustavus City Council that State Legislators are encouraged to support the H.R. 2256, the PAHR Act, and that once the Act is adopted, the funds be redistributed to local municipalities to further the mandates of Alaska Statute 29.20.380.

PASSED and APPROVED by the Gustavus City Council this \_\_\_\_ day of August, 2009.

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William Unkel, Mayor

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Paul Berry, Vice Mayor

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Wayne Howell, Council Member

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Sandi Marchbanks, Council Member

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John Nixon, Council Member

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Joe Lassiter, Council Member

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Lou Cacioppo, Council Member

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Attest: Kapryce Manchester,  
City Clerk

**City of Gustavus, Alaska**

**RESOLUTION 2009-21**

**TO SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OF A COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER IN GUSTAVUS IN ORDER TO OBTAIN ACCESSIBLE PRIMARY MEDICAL CARE FOR ALL PERSONS IN THIS SERVICE AREA, INCLUDING LOW INCOME PERSONS WITHOUT MEDICAL INSURANCE;**

**TO SUPPORT ALASKA ISLAND COMMUNITY SERVICES (AICS) AS THE ENTITY TO IMPLEMENT THESE SERVICES AND ASSUME OPERATION OF THE GUSTAVUS COMMUNITY CLINIC; AND**

**TO SUPPORT FEDERAL SECTION 330 FUNDING BE GRANTED TO AICS TO PERMIT OPERATION OF THIS COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER (CHC) IN CONFORMITY WITH BUREAU OF PRIMARY HEALTH CARE (BPHC) PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS.**

**WHEREAS**, the target population of Gustavus Alaska and the Glacier Bay area suffer from extreme geographic isolation and limited transportation options, making out-of-town primary medical care impractical and dangerous; and

**WHEREAS**, the 13.5% of the target population live below Alaska adjusted federal poverty level, limiting their access to health care, and 20% are both uninsured and live below 200% of Alaska adjusted poverty level; and

**WHEREAS**, significant health disparities exist among the target population and severe access barriers to medical care prevail in Gustavus, but there is no program in place to reduce health disparities, increase access or address the needs of low-income, uninsured persons; and

**WHEREAS**, the nonprofit Gustavus Community Clinic maintains its current limited operations only through a subsidy from the City of Gustavus and lacks any independent funds to subsidize services to low-income uninsured persons; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Gustavus and the Clinic lack the capacity to provide medical services to persons without the ability to pay full fee, and lack capacity to support medical services in a manner consistent with the public interest; and

**WHEREAS**, the Gustavus Community Clinic is the sole health care provider, and the clinic lacks the resources to provide services required by the community, including our aging population with chronic conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, no behavioral health services, oral health services or pharmacy services are delivered in the service area; and

**WHEREAS**, no case management or enabling services are available to patients in the service area; and

**WHEREAS**, the people of Gustavus have met in public meetings as part of a comprehensive planning process, and expressed united support for this Community Health Center (CHC) resolution; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council has met publicly with Alaska Island Community Services staff, and supports AICS as the entity to provide CHC services to Gustavus; and

**WHEREAS**, Alaska Island Community Services has a proven, successful record of managing Community Health Center services in remote communities with similar needs and demographics as Gustavus; and

**WHEREAS**, the Gustavus Clinic Board of Directors will cede site control of the clinic facilities to AICS for purposes of establishing a Health Center, will have authority to ensure responsiveness of services from AICS and fully supports this resolution;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Gustavus City Council, in an effort to improve health services for persons in the Gustavus service area, provide access to services by overcoming physical and financial barriers to care, and ensure universal primary care regardless of race, residence or ability to pay, hereby requests Alaska Island Community Services to initiate an application for federal funding from Health, Resources and Service Administration (HRSA.)

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Gustavus City Council requests that HRSA give positive consideration to the application by Alaska Island Community Services for Section 330 funding to establish a New Access Point-Satellite Health Center in Gustavus to serve the population of the Gustavus service area including Bartlett Cove and the Glacier Bay area.

PASSED and APPROVED by the Gustavus City Council, 13th of August, 2009.

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William Unkel, Mayor

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Paul Berry, Vice Mayor

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Wayne Howell, Council Member

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Sandi Marchbanks, Council Member

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John Nixon, Council Member

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Joe Lassiter, Council Member

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Lou Cacioppo, Council Member

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Attest: Kapryce Manchester,  
City Clerk

**Resolution 2009-22 – Road Acceptance**

**-Mayor's Request For Agenda Change – Request  
to remove from agenda until later date.**

**CITY OF GUSTAVUS, ALASKA  
RESOLUTION 2009-23**

**A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE CONSTRUCTION OF A TERMINAL  
BUILDING AT THE NEWLY CONSTRUCTED GUSTAVUS DOCK, AND;**

**TO SUPPORT ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S  
CONDITIONS THAT THE CITY OF GUSTAVUS PROVIDES THE  
MAINTENANCE and OPERATION OF SAID TERMINAL BUILDING.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Gustavus was successful in obtaining an earmark from Alaska's Washington delegation for Alaska Marine Highway-designated funding for Gustavus, and;

**WHEREAS**, the construction bid for the new dock facility came in below the engineer's estimated budget, thereby creating an excess in dedicated funds, and;

**WHEREAS**, Alaska Department of Transportation has offered to build a terminal building with those excess dedicated funds, and;

**WHEREAS**, the eventual scheduling of an Alaska Marine Highway Ferry into Gustavus will require a terminal facility, and;

**WHEREAS**, Alaska Department of Transportation is highly favorable to the City of Gustavus using part of terminal building's space for City functions, i.e. the City Clerk's office and a city meeting place, and;

**WHEREAS**, the City of Gustavus has committed, from its reserve funds, an amount of \$237,000.00 for matching funding for the portion of the Gustavus dock that includes the small boat/charter/transient floats thereby rendering the City unable to remodel its present city hall to add an ADA-compliant public restroom or needed storage space, and;

**WHEREAS**, Alaska Department of Transportation would own the building and would require that the City be responsible for the maintenance and operation of said terminal building including regular painting, and costs for electricity and heating,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the city council of the City of Gustavus supports the construction, operation and maintenance of a Gustavus ferry terminal/city office building and The City of Gustavus will have the building open with priority use by AMHS when a vessel is in port - upon agreement and signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with Alaska Department of Transportation.

Passed and approved by the Gustavus City Council this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2009.

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William Unkel, Mayor

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Paul Berry, Vice Mayor

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Wayne Howell, Council Member

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Sandi Marchbanks, Council Member

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John Nixon, Council Member

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Joe Lassiter, Council Member

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Louis Cacioppo, Council Member

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Attest: Kapryce Manchester,  
City Clerk

**City of Gustavus  
Resolution 2009-24**

**A RESOLUTION REQUIRING THAT GCN REPAY ALL CITY RESERVE  
FUNDS USED AS A MATCH FOR THE BROADBAND TECHNOLOGIES  
OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM (BTOP) GRANT APPLICATION**

**Whereas** GCN is a committee of the city, and;

**Whereas** GCN enabling ordinance 06.05.020 states "that GCN shall generally not be subsidized by Gustavus taxpayers, and that GCN revenues be payment for services rendered, not a form of taxation supporting other City services.", and;

**Whereas** if the BTOP grant application is awarded GCN will be able to create a broadband network for the city of Gustavus that in all likelihood will be profitable over time, and;

**Whereas** GCN will use net profits to repay the city reserve funds used in the BTOP grant match utilizing a method or methods to be developed by GCN committee and the City Clerk.

**AND NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Gustavus City Council requires the GCN Committee to return to the City reserve an amount equal to the amount used in the BTOP grant application utilizing a method acceptable to the city clerk and GCN committee.

PASSED and APPROVED by the Gustavus City Council, this 7th day of August, 2009.

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William Unkel, Mayor

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Paul Berry, Vice Mayor

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Wayne Howell, Council Member

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Sandi Marchbanks, Council Member

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John Nixon, Council Member

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Joe Lassiter, Council Member

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Louis Cacioppo, Council Member

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Attest: Kapryce Manchester,  
City Clerk



Gustavus Community Clinic  
P.O. Box 399  
Gustavus, Alaska 99826  
907-697-3008

June 18, 2009

Mayor Unkel  
City of Gustavus  
P.O. Box 1  
Gustavus, Ak. 99826

Mayor Unkel,

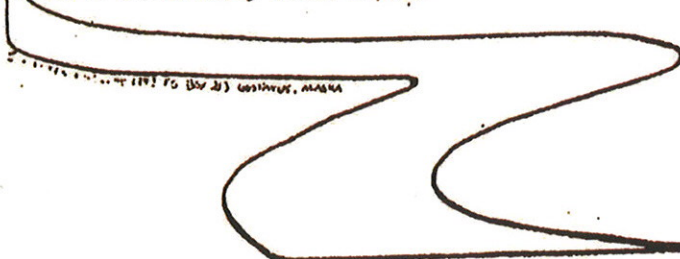
The Gustavus Community Clinic Board will have \$750.39 left in endowment fund grant money in the Staff Development category at the end of fiscal year 2009.

Our provider was enrolled in an emergency medical conference in Sitka in May 2009, but was unable to attend due to the serious illness of her father living in Florida.

We are requesting to be allowed to use this remaining money in the 2010 fiscal year for staff development and provider continuing education.

Sincerely,

Gustavus Community Clinic Board



## EXPENDITURE RECORD ENDOWMENT FUND GRANT

Mayor  
City of Gustavus  
P.O. Box 1  
Gustavus, Ak. 00926

Report Number 4

Report Number 4

Project Name:

Report Period: April 1, 2009 to June 30, 2009

Project Grantee/organization: Gustavus Community Clinic  
Address: P.O. Box 399, Gustavus, Ak. 99826

Budget Category	Authorized Budget Amount	Total Expenditures last period	Expenditures this period	Total Expenditure to date	Balance of funds remaining
Provider Training	\$3,500.00	\$777.58	0.00	\$2,749.61	\$750.39
Accounting Training	\$1,600.00	0.00	0.00	\$1,600.00	0.00
Office Training	\$975.00	0.00	\$106.05	\$975.00	0.00
Totals					

Payments Received to date: \$6,075.00
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This Payment Request: None

I CERTIFY that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the data reported herein is correct and all outlays were made in accordance with grant conditions and the payment is due and has not been previously requested.

Navita Marchbanks  
Person responsible for reporting grant expenditures

Date 7/7/09

Office Manager  
Title of responsible person

Telephone: 697-3008- Fax: 697-3034

Fax: 697-3034

**Planning Committee: Motion to Accept Grant  
Writer RFP**

**\*RFP supplied by Planning Committee with  
additions from 8-6-2009 City Council Work  
Session.**

**Road Committee: Motion to Accept Road  
Committee RFQ**

**\*Final RFQ with corrected dates supplied by Road  
Committee on 8/7/2009**

August 12, 2009

To the Gustavus City Council:

As a member of this community and a local business owner, I am writing to express my complete support for the Gustavus Community Clinic in its request for funding from the City of Gustavus for the next fiscal year. Supplemental funding to support the operating costs of running the Clinic has proven to be a necessity since the clinic cannot generate enough revenue to cover these high costs on its own.

I applaud the Clinic board members in their pursuit to seek a partnership as a satellite clinic with Alaska Island Community Health Services out of Wrangell in order to obtain funding through the CHC grant to pay for these operating costs. The partnership will provide not only financial support for the clinic but also peer support for its health care provider and volunteer board. Until that funding comes through, the community must continue to provide some level of financial support to the clinic so that it may continue to offer the high quality health care that we have grown to depend on.

Each summer, local businesses have both seasonal employees and visitors that require either emergency or preventative health care. The Clinic's presence enables these people to obtain much needed, high-quality health care without the added expense or delay of flying to Juneau. The Clinic and its staff have proven invaluable in meeting the demand for preventive and emergency health care in our community.

I cannot emphasize enough how important I consider the Clinic to be for the well being of our community members and visitors. I strongly urge you to prioritize financial support for the Gustavus Community Clinic so that it may continue to provide the high standard of health care services that we need and appreciate.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kara Berg", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Kara Berg  
P.O. Box 81  
Gustavus, AK 99826

Dear Gustavus City Council,

I am writing to give my heartfelt support for the Gustavus Community Clinic.

Without the medical support of this facility, we do not have a functional town.

We need to know that given any medical emergency, we will have access to help.

Margaret is a gem and will be sorely missed, but whoever takes her place will be

doing the same safety net work that she provides.

I have often used the clinic and feel comfortable knowing that I have that option

instead of flying into Juneau at huge expense whenever I feel unwell.

I have

gotten wonderful service through the clinic - they even looked at Max (my dog)

when he was attacked by another dog.

I hope that you will fund this wonderful town asset. We really need the clinic;

I can't emphasize that enough.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Jackson

August 13, 2009

Dear Gustavus City Council,

I am writing to show my support for the City to financially assist the Gustavus Community Clinic. Perhaps this is my swan song (or my burning bridge).

In a time when the number one issue on the federal table is healthcare, I believe it should also be of supreme importance in Gustavus, even given precedence over road maintenance, the library, fish tax and recycling, as evidenced in the community survey taken several years ago.

In my 35 years of healthcare, I have never seen an organization do so much with so little. The Clinic Board deserves accolades for performing the Herculean task of creating and running a superior facility since its inception in the 90's. In this case, it seems wise to maintain and sustain what is presently here than to re-create a clinic at some future date, as the expense to do so would be absolutely prohibitive.

There should be nothing but appreciation and reverence for the GCC board members.

As a non-profit, its mission has been simple and direct, never misguided, in providing healthcare services to the residents and guests of Gustavus and Glacier Bay National Park. This clinic, with only two employees, has been providing superior primary and urgent care for the past several years on a budget of less than \$160,000 a year.

During this national healthcare crisis, the Feds should be holding the GCC as a role model for all others and learning from the GCC Board the 'how to' of running such a tight ship. Without being a city entity (and thus saving the work for the city) it has managed to supply the community (and city volunteers) with regular healthcare, both primary and urgent, immunizations, TB testing, EMS guidance and support, public health and disaster interfacing. It behooves the City to support the clinic with all its might.

Let it be known that no one has ever been turned away from the doors of GCC. The clinic has been open 112 hours a month with an additional 415 hours of on-call availability every month. Many citizens rely on the clinic in entirety. They cannot access services in Juneau, Seattle or other snow-bird cities in the lower 48.

The subsidizing of \$54,000 is a very economical 'insurance plan' for services being delivered to the entire city, seasonal guests and workers...actually equal to the health insurance premiums of less than 5 employees a year... if the city were to offer such benefits to its paid and unpaid staff.

Many of you question the expenses of running a clinic...

The largest expense *is* personnel.

The office manager, in utmost confidentiality, functions as receptionist, bookkeeper, computer analyzer, collections and medical billing specialist, state vaccine manager, well-child nutrition coordinator, phlebotomist, courier, chauffeur and provides maintenance, laundry and janitor services. She must stay trained to keep up with medical

terminology, procedure and exam codes, rules and regulations involving the federal Medicare programs, Medicaid and the multitude of insurance companies. She is the front PR person. (Yes, Davita walks on water and deserves way more than she is compensated for.)

The provider must have the education and experience setting her at an equivalent of a GS 12-14. She has 8 years of college. She must have the experience and flexibility for practicing independently with a 'can do / make do' attitude. She acts as nurse, provider, pharmacist, lab tech, mental health counselor, veterinarian, hospice provider, home visit nurse, forensics medical examiner, mortician, infection control, teacher and researcher. (She also provides janitor and gardening services.) She is legally mandated to maintain 100's of hours of continuing education a year to remain competent and licensed. Skills must be maintained in treating both genders throughout the lifespan with wide and varied conditions...(eg. paps to prostrate, contraception to heart failure and diabetes to schizophrenia, to name just a few.)

There is malpractice insurance, federal and state licensure, professional registration, national certifications including CPR, Advanced Cardiac Life Support and Advanced Trauma Life Support, DEA registration and pharmaceutical requirements.

The emotional burden is in itself a challenge. She must 'sleep with her boots on' and 'live with a loaded gun and the trigger cocked'. The solo practice puts a constant burden on her shoulders..."was it the right decision, the right diagnosis? Was it the best prescription? The right treatment? Were lab reports interpreted accurately? Was it an appropriate referral?"

Additional expenses involve the facility itself... utilities, supplies, pharmacy, procedure and exam equipment, sterile trays, lab kits, central supplies, etc. All need constant attention for maintenance, expiration and replacement.

I believe the City of Gustavus should feel indebted to the Clinic Board. I am certainly grateful and humbled by what they accomplish. Gustavus is getting an outrageous deal when it comes to subsidizing the clinic. The city couldn't get a better-spent or well-accounted-for dollar. I thank you for the trust and privilege in serving the Gustavus community.

In Health,  
Margaret Bortko

*Margaret Bortko FNP, EMT-P*

I wanted to talk tonight about the need for doing what we must to keep the clinic going. Not only did I work there & saw the need, I have experienced Gustavus before a clinic. When I was growing up here, we were reminded constantly that we had to be extra safe. I sliced my forehead on a barbwire fence. A patch & a scar had to make do. Another time I got a fish bone stuck in my throat. Dad took me to everyone in town to try their home remedies. I remember well the town drunk actually putting forceps down my throat to no avail. Eventually the Civil Air Patrol escorted me to Juneau for a very quick removal process.

Dr. Jack Lesh eventually set up an office, I believe out of concern for the community. It certainly wasn't a money making business. As with most kids, things happen & I was taken to see him a couple of times.

Later when I had children of my own, Jacob got really sick. I was terrified. His fever was SO high. The only medical care was to talk to the ER in Juneau by phone. You don't realize how much time planes can't fly until you have a sick child.

While working at the clinic, I realized just how important the clinic is. Kids get sick. Is it strep throat or just a cold? As a mom, I know how living here you hesitate taking your child to the Dr. if it means a trip to Juneau. That can be a very expensive trip for a cold & difficult with a sick child. So then becomes the self battle. Should I? Shouldn't I. And so people end up staying that should have left. It doesn't become obvious until planes can't fly. And what could have had a simple fix becomes a major issue or something that spreads to every other kid in town who then spread it to all the adults.

This morning I had 2 girls with bad tummy aches. In the old days I would have started the struggle to decide how long I can wait & see before heading to Juneau.

The clinic provides preventative care as well. People living in rural areas without medical care facilities often do not do the normal preventative care things. Annual exams get pushed back to every-5-years exams. Yes, we all usually end up in Juneau at some point but if you don't know you are going in advance, you don't set up those appointments. As an example, when I lived in Juneau I got my mammograms annually. Living here where there are not those facilities, I fell into the every-5-years person. But I can keep current with the rest of a woman's annual care.

I think most people here do not realize how many of our neighbors could not live here but for the clinic. They may need their blood checked on a regular basis, a simple procedure that has life saving importance. My father was one of those people. He could not have lived here the last several years of his life if someone could not monitor his blood, and not JUST his blood. A healthcare professional notices all the other things that need to be checked out closer. Each blood test came with a medical chat & exam as needed. We will lose a lot of our older generation who will have to move without a clinic.

One more situation a healthcare provider deals with is mental health. Many of our neighbors deal with depression or other mental health issues. To expect them to travel to get these needs met with any frequency is unrealistic.

I want to end by saying my argument is not for the purpose of saving families money by not having to head to Juneau for medical. If that were the case, we could just divide the money amongst us all & call it good. Instead the need is for emergency care, prevention of postponement of care both in preventative treatments & in times of more immediate need, & convenience (though that doesn't sound like a strong enough word) of getting treatment here when you or your children are sick & a trip would be miserable.

I am not current on knowledge of clinic finances but I know how difficult it is keeping a provider here. We ask a lot of a provider & staff and must pay them accordingly if we expect to keep them.

Of all the services we expect our city to pay for, I can't think of any more important. This is not just a convenience.

Thank you.

Donna DeBoer-Williams

Dear Gustavus City Council,

I am writing to give my heartfelt support for the Gustavus Community Clinic.

Without the medical support of this facility, we do not have a functional town.

We need to know that given any medical emergency, we will have access to help.

Margaret is a gem and will be sorely missed, but whoever takes her place will be

doing the same safety net work that she provides.

I have often used the clinic and feel comfortable knowing that I have that option

instead of flying into Juneau at huge expense whenever I feel unwell.

I have

gotten wonderful service through the clinic - they even looked at Max (my dog)

when he was attacked by another dog.

I hope that you will fund this wonderful town asset. We really need the clinic;

I can't emphasize that enough.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Jackson

August 12, 2009

To the Gustavus City Council:

As a member of this community and a local business owner, I am writing to express my complete support for the Gustavus Community Clinic in its request for funding from the City of Gustavus for the next fiscal year. Supplemental funding to support the operating costs of running the Clinic has proven to be a necessity since the clinic cannot generate enough revenue to cover these high costs on its own.

I applaud the Clinic board members in their pursuit to seek a partnership as a satellite clinic with Alaska Island Community Health Services out of Wrangell in order to obtain funding through the CHC grant to pay for these operating costs. The partnership will provide not only financial support for the clinic but also peer support for its health care provider and volunteer board. Until that funding comes through, the community must continue to provide some level of financial support to the clinic so that it may continue to offer the high quality health care that we have grown to depend on.

Each summer, local businesses have both seasonal employees and visitors that require either emergency or preventative health care. The Clinic's presence enables these people to obtain much needed, high-quality health care without the added expense or delay of flying to Juneau. The Clinic and its staff have proven invaluable in meeting the demand for preventive and emergency health care in our community.

I cannot emphasize enough how important I consider the Clinic to be for the well being of our community members and visitors. I strongly urge you to prioritize financial support for the Gustavus Community Clinic so that it may continue to provide the high standard of health care services that we need and appreciate.

Respectfully,



Kara Berg  
P.O. Box 81  
Gustavus, AK 99826

August 13, 2009

Dear Gustavus City Council,

I am writing to show my support for the City to financially assist the Gustavus Community Clinic. Perhaps this is my swan song (or my burning bridge).

In a time when the number one issue on the federal table is healthcare, I believe it should also be of supreme importance in Gustavus, even given precedence over road maintenance, the library, fish tax and recycling, as evidenced in the community survey taken several years ago.

In my 35 years of healthcare, I have never seen an organization do so much with so little. The Clinic Board deserves accolades for performing the Herculean task of creating and running a superior facility since its inception in the 90's. In this case, it seems wise to maintain and sustain what is presently here than to re-create a clinic at some future date, as the expense to do so would be absolutely prohibitive.

There should be nothing but appreciation and reverence for the GCC board members.

As a non-profit, its mission has been simple and direct, never misguided, in providing healthcare services to the residents and guests of Gustavus and Glacier Bay National Park. This clinic, with only two employees, has been providing superior primary and urgent care for the past several years on a budget of less than \$160,000 a year.

During this national healthcare crisis, the Feds should be holding the GCC as a role model for all others and learning from the GCC Board the 'how to' of running such a tight ship. Without being a city entity (and thus saving the work for the city) it has managed to supply the community (and city volunteers) with regular healthcare, both primary and urgent, immunizations, TB testing, EMS guidance and support, public health and disaster interfacing. It behooves the City to support the clinic with all its might.

Let it be known that no one has ever been turned away from the doors of GCC. The clinic has been open 112 hours a month with an additional 415 hours of on-call availability every month. Many citizens rely on the clinic in entirety. They cannot access services in Juneau, Seattle or other snow-bird cities in the lower 48.

The subsidizing of \$54,000 is a very economical 'insurance plan' for services being delivered to the entire city, seasonal guests and workers... actually equal to the health insurance premiums of less than 5 employees a year... if the city were to offer such benefits to its paid and unpaid staff.

Many of you question the expenses of running a clinic...

The largest expense *is* personnel.

The office manager, in utmost confidentiality, functions as receptionist, bookkeeper, computer analyzer, collections and medical billing specialist, state vaccine manager, well-child nutrition coordinator, phlebotomist, courier, chauffeur and provides maintenance, laundry and janitor services. She must stay trained to keep up with medical

terminology, procedure and exam codes, rules and regulations involving the federal Medicare programs, Medicaid and the multitude of insurance companies. She is the front PR person. (Yes, Davita walks on water and deserves way more than she is compensated for.)

The provider must have the education and experience setting her at an equivalent of a GS 12-14. She has 8 years of college. She must have the experience and flexibility for practicing independently with a 'can do / make do' attitude. She acts as nurse, provider, pharmacist, lab tech, mental health counselor, veterinarian, hospice provider, home visit nurse, forensics medical examiner, mortician, infection control, teacher and researcher. (She also provides janitor and gardening services.) She is legally mandated to maintain 100's of hours of continuing education a year to remain competent and licensed. Skills must be maintained in treating both genders throughout the lifespan with wide and varied conditions...(eg. paps to prostrate, contraception to heart failure and diabetes to schizophrenia, to name just a few.)

There is malpractice insurance, federal and state licensure, professional registration, national certifications including CPR, Advanced Cardiac Life Support and Advanced Trauma Life Support, DEA registration and pharmaceutical requirements.

The emotional burden is in itself a challenge. She must 'sleep with her boots on' and 'live with a loaded gun and the trigger cocked'. The solo practice puts a constant burden on her shoulders..."was it the right decision, the right diagnosis? Was it the best prescription? The right treatment? Were lab reports interpreted accurately? Was it an appropriate referral?"

Additional expenses involve the facility itself... utilities, supplies, pharmacy, procedure and exam equipment, sterile trays, lab kits, central supplies, etc. All need constant attention for maintenance, expiration and replacement.

I believe the City of Gustavus should feel indebted to the Clinic Board. I am certainly grateful and humbled by what they accomplish. Gustavus is getting an outrageous deal when it comes to subsidizing the clinic. The city couldn't get a better-spent or well-accounted-for dollar. I thank you for the trust and privilege in serving the Gustavus community.

In Health,  
Margaret Bortko

Margaret Bortko FNP, EMT-P